

# Montana State Legislature

2011 Session

## **Exhibit 1**

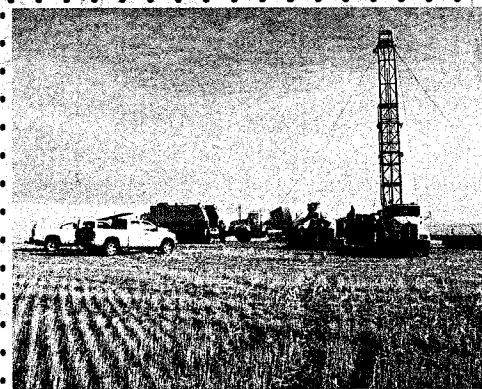
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# MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

EXHIBIT 1  
DATE 11/10/11  
NO 58



FISCAL YEAR 2010  
ANNUAL REPORT

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## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION



BRIAN SCHWEITZER, GOVERNOR

1625 ELEVENTH AVENUE

### STATE OF MONTANA

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FAX: (406) 444-2684PO BOX 201601  
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-1601

Hello Montanans,

Have you had a wildfire near your community recently? Is your community upgrading its sewer or water system? Have you recreated on State Land lately? Do you have children in Montana's public school system? And has that water right so important to your farm operation been adjudicated? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then you have had contact with the Department of Natural Resources, and maybe you didn't even know it!

The DNRC impacts the lives of Montanans regularly. Here are a few examples:

- In the past year, the agency has assisted 70 communities with sewer and water systems through grants and loans. As the state's water infrastructure ages, it is critically important to have State and Federal agency support for small communities.
- DNRC staff continues to finalize water right claims for the adjudication process. We have only 500 claims left of 56,000 just four years ago. We also provide water to communities and irrigators through state water projects. Additionally, we are implementing major improvements to Ruby Reservoir, one of our largest reservoirs, and addressing dam safety issues.
- Although only 57,000 acres burned because of wildfire last year, DNRC folks, along with local firefighters and federal personnel, helped to suppress those blazes. DNRC service foresters have also assisted over 3,000 landowners with managing their forested lands, particularly those infected with mountain pine beetle. Over 14,000 acres were treated to mitigate effects of fire in the wildland urban interface.
- State land board members approved leasing of Otter Creek Coal tracts which added \$81 million in funding for K-12 education in Montana. Also, the state has acquired new trust lands — over 30,000 acres since 2007 — which add substantially to the public acres available for hunting and fishing, and increase funding for public education.

Since this is a legislative year — and legislators like numbers — our annual report is filled with lots of facts and statistics. But don't let that distract you from finding out more about DNRC's influence on life in Montana. Whether you have school kids, live in a forested area, or have a water right, you probably deal with the DNRC staff frequently. We really do affect the daily lives of almost all Montanans.

Thanks for your interest in the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation!

Mary Sexton, Director

## Introduction

"Helping to ensure Montana's land and water resources provide benefits for present and future generations" is the mission of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC).

First established in 1971 as a result of the Executive Reorganization Act of 1971, the DNRC provides leadership in managing the state's natural resources. It is responsible for promoting the stewardship of Montana's water, soil, forest, and rangeland resources and for regulating forest practices and oil and gas exploration and production. In the past eight years, the agency has generated \$425 million for Montana school children through the sound management of state lands.

## Department Organization

The director of the DNRC is Mary Sexton.

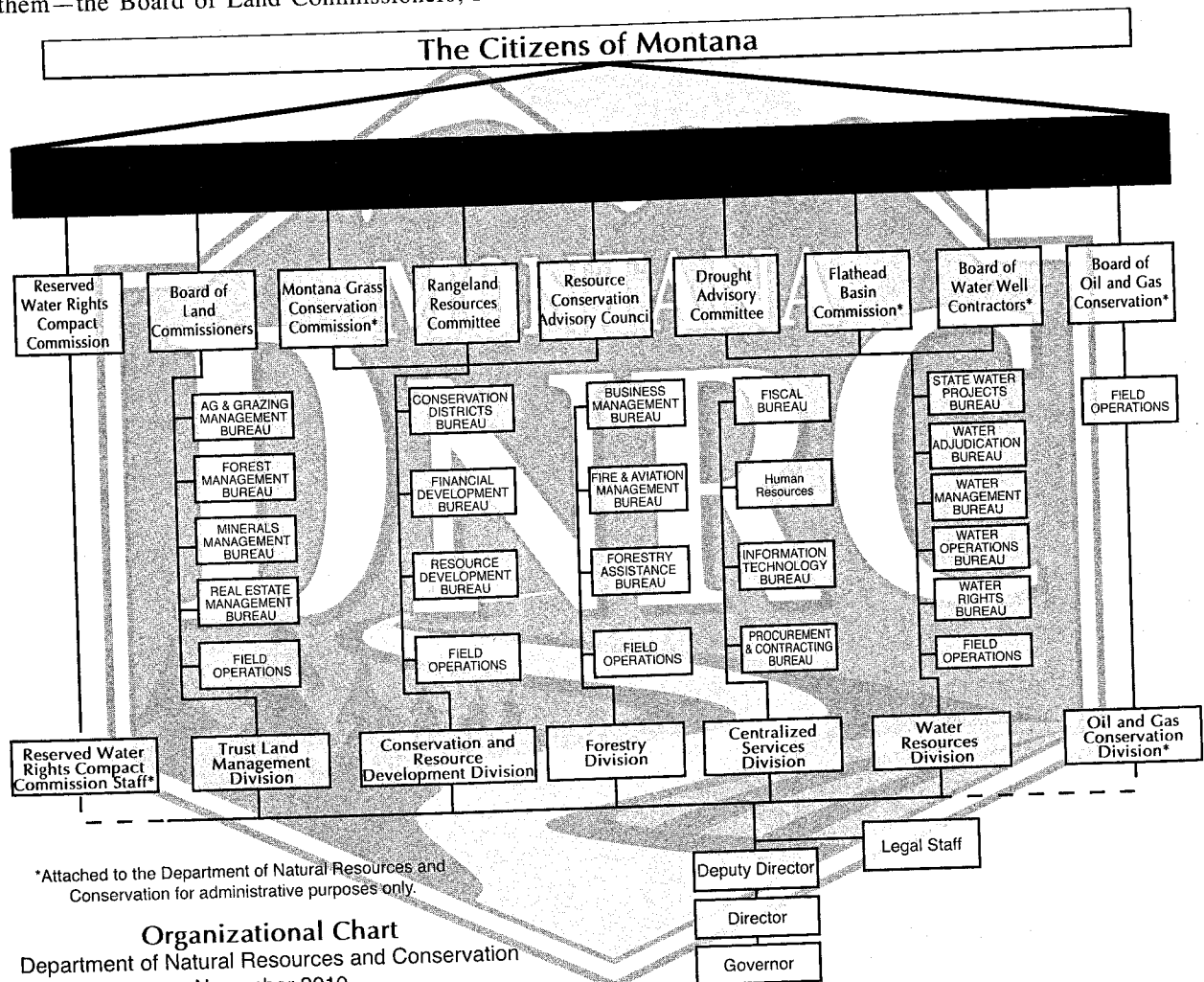
As shown in the organization chart, nine boards and commissions are attached to the department. Six of them—the Board of Land Commissioners, Reserved

Water Rights Compact Commission, Board of Oil and Gas Conservation, Board of Water Well Contractors, Flathead Basin Commission, and Montana Grass Conservation Commission—have decision-making authority. The other three—the Resource Conservation Advisory Council, Rangeland Resources Committee, and Drought Advisory Committee—act in an advisory capacity only.

The department is organized into seven divisions:

- Centralized Services
- Conservation and Resource Development
- Forestry
- Oil and Gas Conservation
- Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission
- Trust Land Management
- Water Resources

Two of the divisions—the Oil and Gas Conservation Division and the Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission—are attached to the department for administrative purposes only.



## About the Director

Originally from Great Falls, Mary graduated from CMR High School and has degrees from Stanford University and The University of Montana.

She taught high school in Hamilton, and was administrator of The Nature Conservancy's Pine Butte Swamp Preserve, west of Choteau.

She is involved with both agriculture and tourism businesses. Mary has served on boards including the Public Wildlife/Private Lands Council, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Resource Advisory Council, and the Teton County Commission from 1999-2004.

Mary is married with one daughter.

To contact the director's office, please call 406/444-2074.



**Mary Sexton**

## Deputy Director

Joe has worked on a wide variety of Montana natural resource issues for the past 34 years. He has served as the state director for former Congressman Pat Williams, and as state land board staff and communications director for Superintendents of Public Instruction Nancy Keenan and Linda McCulloch.

Joe joined the DNRC in fall 2007. He works directly with the director and division administrators on management, planning, and budgeting to fulfill DNRC's mission. He also oversees the agency's public information activities and the work of the Montana State Restoration Coordinator. To contact the deputy director, please call 406/444-9708.



**Joe Lamson**

## Division Duties and Responsibilities

### Centralized Services

The Centralized Services Division (CSD) provides administrative and operational support to all DNRC divisions. Support services include financial management, purchasing, information technology processing, human resources, legal, reception, and mail. The



**Tricia Schiltz**

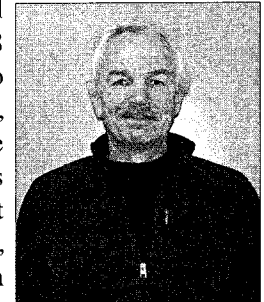
division coordinates information services and prepares publications and graphic materials for printing. Trust revenues are collected and distributed.

The CSD administrator is Tricia Schiltz. For more information, visit the CSD web site at [www.dnrc.mt.gov/csd](http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/csd) or call 406/444-2074.

## Conservation and Resource Development

The Conservation and Resource Development Division (CARDD) coordinates, supervises, and provides financial and technical assistance to Montana's 58 conservation districts. It also provides technical, financial, and administrative assistance to public and private entities to complete projects that put renewable resources to work, increase the efficiency with which natural resources are used, or solve recognized environmental problems. The division provides administrative support to the Montana Grass Conservation Commission. The division receives advice and guidance from two other attached bodies: the Resource Conservation Advisory Council and the Rangeland Resources Committee.

The CARDD administrator is Ray Beck. For more information, visit the CARDD web site at [www.dnrc.mt.gov/cardd](http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/cardd) or call 406/444-6667.



**Ray Beck**

## Forestry

The Forestry Division protects the state's forested and nonforested watershed lands from wildfire; provides aviation services; operates a nursery and provides shelterbelt, windbreak, wildlife habitat improvement, reclamation, and reforestation plantings on state and private lands; and regulates forest practices and wildfire hazards created by logging or other forest management operations on private lands.

The Forestry administrator is Bob Harrington. For more information, visit the forestry web site at [www.dnrc.mt.gov/forestry](http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/forestry) or call 406/542-4300.



**Bob Harrington**



## Oil and Gas Conservation

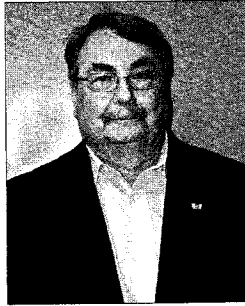
The Board of Oil and Gas Conservation (BOGC) and its technical support staff are attached to the department for administrative purposes. The quasi-judicial board is comprised of seven members consisting of industry representatives, landowners, and an attorney. They administer Montana's oil and gas laws and the federal Underground Injection Control Program to promote conservation and prevent waste in the recovery of these resources through regulation of oil and gas exploration and production. The board and its staff issue drilling permits; classify wells; establish well spacing units and land pooling orders; inspect drilling, production, and seismic operations; investigate complaints; conduct engineering studies; and collect and maintain complete well data and production information.

The BOGC administrator is Tom Richmond. For more information, visit the BOGC web site at [www.bogc.dnrc.mt.gov](http://www.bogc.dnrc.mt.gov) or call 406/656-0040.

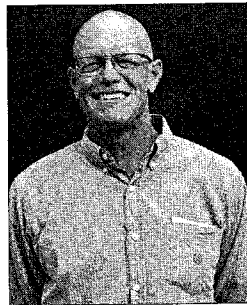
## Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission

The Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission (RWRCC), which is also administratively attached to the department, was created by the legislature in 1979 as part of the water rights adjudication effort. Commissioners are appointed by the governor, the attorney general, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and the president of the Senate. The nine-member commission and its support staff negotiate water rights with Indian Tribes and federal agencies to establish formal agreement on the amount of water to be allocated to each interest.

The RWRCC administrator is Bill Schultz. For more information, visit the RWRCC web site at [www.dnrc.mt.gov/rwrcc](http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/rwrcc), call 406/444-6841 or e-mail [dnrrwrcc@mt.gov](mailto:dnrrwrcc@mt.gov).



**Tom Richmond**



**Bill Schultz**

## Trust Land Management

The Trust Land Management Division (TLMD) is responsible for managing the surface and mineral resources of forested, grazing, agricultural, and other classified state trust lands to produce revenue for the benefit of Montana's public schools and other endowed institutions. The Board of Land Commissioners oversees the administration of the state trust land in Montana, as directed by the Montana Constitution. This board consists of Montana's top elected officials: the governor, superintendent of public instruction, secretary of state, attorney general, and state auditor.

The TLMD administrator is Tom Schultz. For more information, visit the TLMD web site at [www.dnrc.mt.gov/trust](http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/trust) or call 406/444-2074.

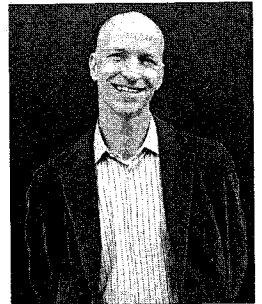


**Tom Schultz**

## Water Resources

The Water Resources Division (WRD) is responsible for many programs associated with the uses, development, and protection of Montana's water. The division also develops and recommends water policy to the director, governor, and legislature. The division comprises five bureaus—State Water Projects, Water Management, Water Operations, Water Rights, and Water Adjudication—and eight regional offices. Attached to the Water Operations Bureau is the Board of Water Well Contractors, a quasi-judicial board that can issue, suspend, or revoke licenses; promulgate rules and regulations; investigate complaints; and hold disciplinary hearings. The Flathead Basin Commission was transferred from the Governor's Office to DNRC for the 2005 biennium for administrative purposes. The Drought Advisory Committee is also attached to the Water Resources Division.

The WRD administrator is Tim Davis. For more information, visit the WRD web site at [www.dnrc.mt.gov/wrd](http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/wrd) or call 406/444-6601.



**Tim Davis**

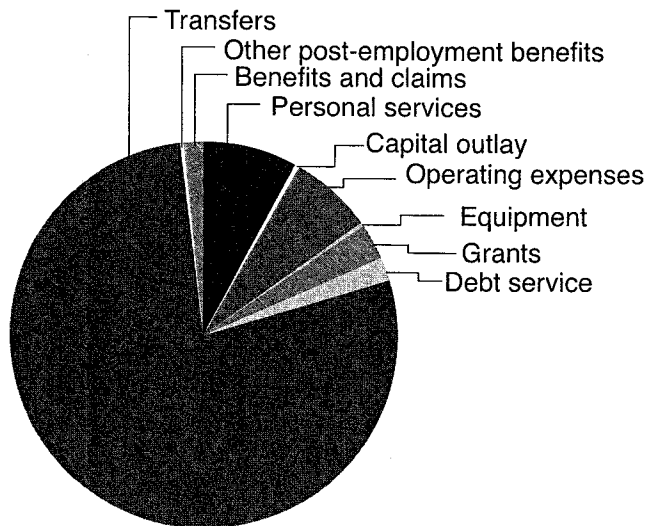
## Financial Information

The charts below present expenditures by category and fund type for the department in FY 2010. A substantial increase in transfers is due to a large one-time lease bonus payment on trust lands transferred to the Common Schools.

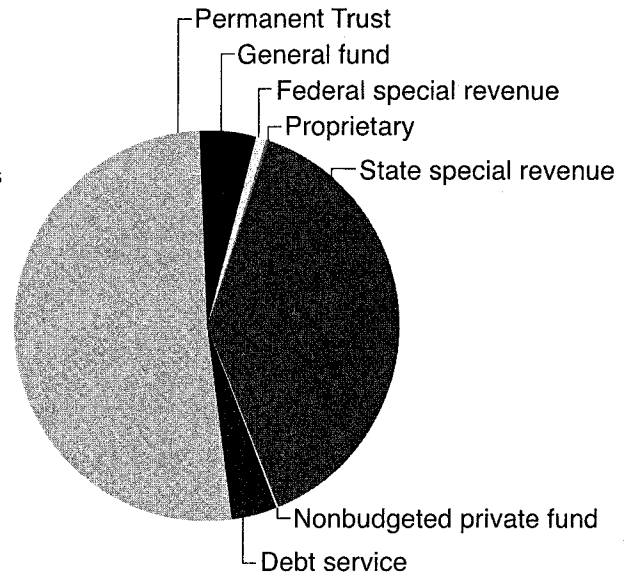
**Table 1**  
**FY 2010 Expenditures**

Total Expenditures by Activity		Total Expenditures by Fund Type	
Personal services	\$ 36,290,979	General fund	\$ 22,204,684
Operating expenses	30,161,713	State special revenue	172,531,968
Equipment	1,142,672	Federal special revenue	-1,938,044
Capital outlay	122,204	Debt service	17,667,677
Grants	14,117,563	Proprietary	2,719,292
Benefits and claims	8,579,579	Nonbudgeted private fund	126,874
Transfers	343,108,475	Permanent Trust	227,591,245
Debt service	7,326,811		
Other post-employment benefits	53,700		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 440,903,696</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 440,903,696</b>

**Figure 1**  
**Activity**



**Figure 2**  
**Funding**

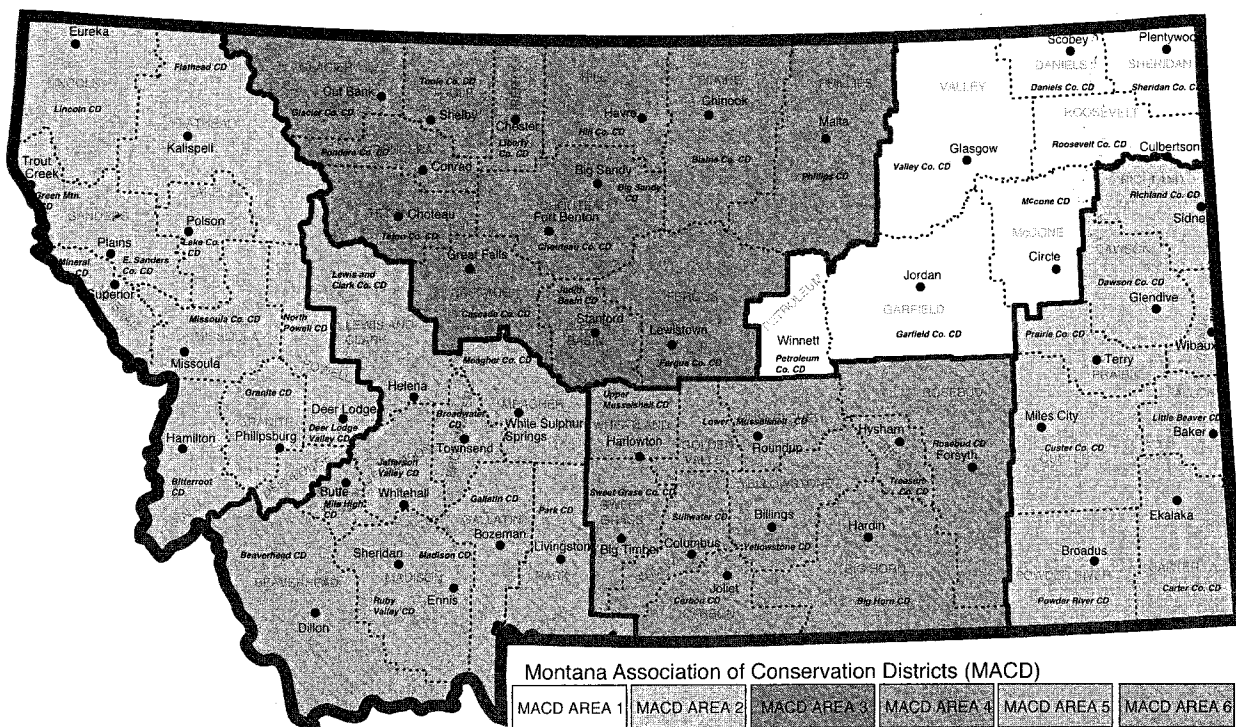


## Field Operations

Although the department headquarters is in Helena, field operations for the department's programs are performed through field offices and personnel in 29 different communities. Included are both full-time and seasonal employees from the Conservation and Resource Development, Forestry, Oil and Gas Conservation, Trust Land Management, and Water Resources divisions. To view area and current project information, please visit the field operations web site at [www.dnrc.mt.gov/field\\_operations](http://www.dnrc.mt.gov/field_operations).

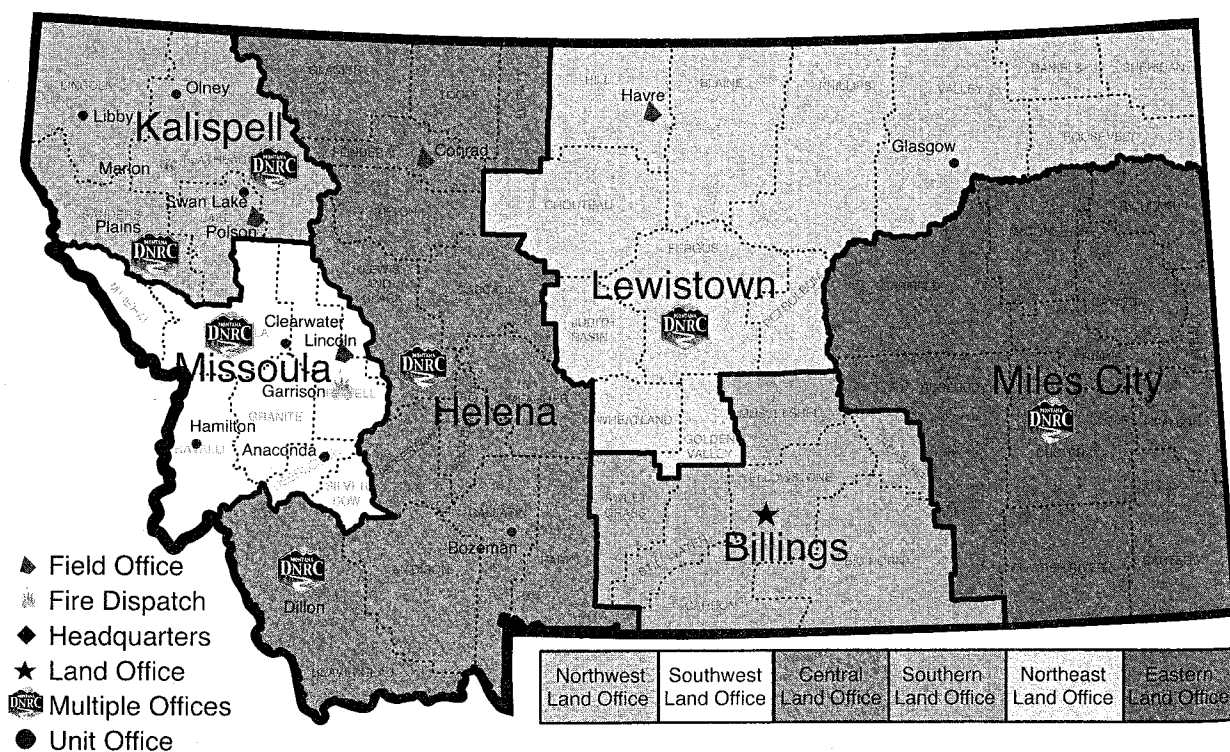
### Conservation District Offices

Conservation and Resource Development offices are responsible for integrating and implementing programs for the Conservation and Resource Development Division.



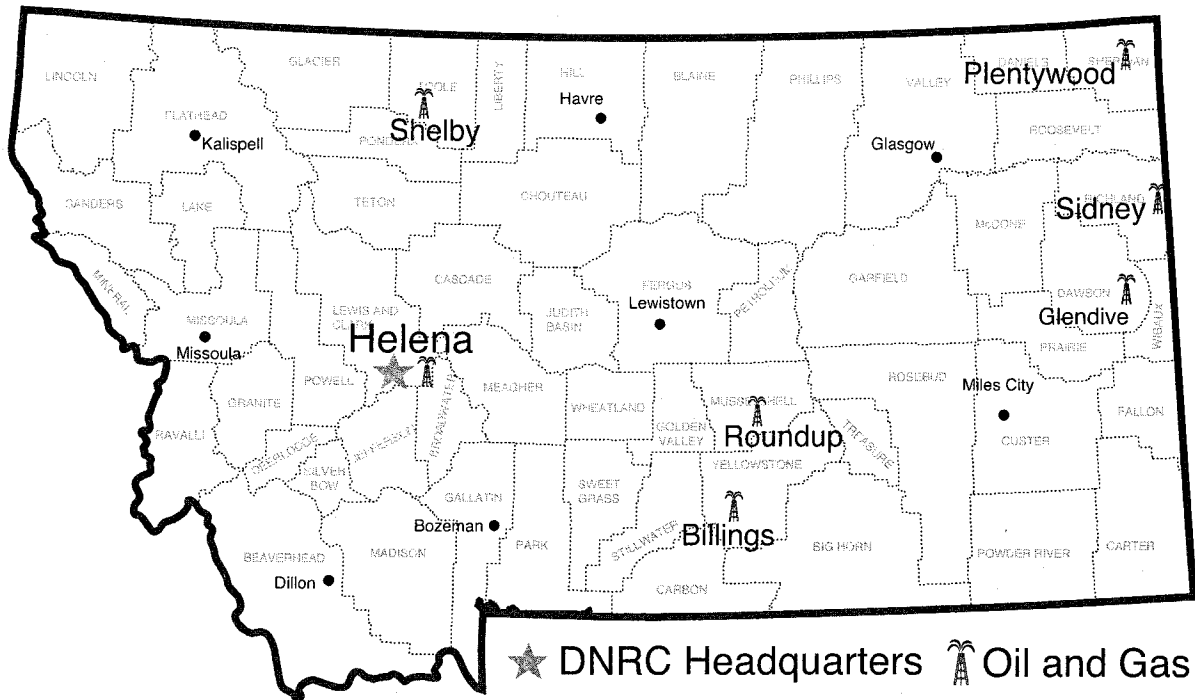
### Area Offices

Area offices are responsible for managing and implementing programs for both Forestry and Trust Land Management divisions.



## Board of Oil and Gas Conservation Offices

Oil and Gas offices facilitate programs for the Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation.



## Regional Offices

Regional water offices are responsible for Water Resources Division operations and programs.

